

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 5-22 are pending in the application.

Rejected claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the framed data is received on Ethernet ports. It has also been slightly rewritten for clarity by eliminating limitations that do not appear to be necessary for patentability. The inserted limitations are plainly not met by Tsukamoto et al. It is submitted that, in view of the examiner indicating that claim 18 contains allowable subject matter, claim 1 should also be allowable for at least the same reasons. Rejected claim 5 depends on claim 1, and therefore it should be allowable for the same reasons.

Claim 6 has been allowed.

Claims 7 and 8, which were indicated as defining allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form. However, please note that the limitations of previously pending claim 1 (before the amendments made above) have not been copied verbatim. The portion, “a switch having a plurality of ports for receiving framed data from a plurality of ports and switching the data to a plurality of ports,” has been changed to, “a switch for receiving framed data from a plurality of ports and switching the data to a plurality of ports, each frame of data including a header information,” for purposes of clarity. It is submitted that this change does not change the patentability of the subject matter. Accordingly, these claims should now be allowable.

In view of the examiner’s statement on page 8 of the detailed action regarding prior arguments distinguishing the claims over DuPont, independent claims 9 and 12 have been amended to clarify that data is being received on Ethernet ports, and that data is being inserted by

a switch. It is submitted that these claims, and claims 10, 11, and 13-16 which depend from them, should be allowable.

The limitations of Claim 18, which the examiner also indicated defined allowable subject matter, have been incorporated into independent claim 17, from which claim 18 depended. Claim 18 has been cancelled. Claim 17, as well as dependent claim 20, should therefore be allowable for the same reasons that claim 18 is allowable.

Dependent claims 19, 21 and 22, which were indicated as being allowable, have been rewritten into independent form by copying into each claim the substance of former claim 17 (prior to the amendments made herein.) Therefore, these claims should now be allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application is therefore respectfully requested for these reasons.

Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees due but not submitted with this paper to Deposit Account No. 07-0153. The Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's Attorney for any reasons that would advance the current application to issue. Please reference Attorney Docket No. 131105-1006.

Respectfully submitted,
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